5

10

- 15 -

## **ABSTRACT**

A rescue underlay for mattresses (1), comprising a substantially rectangular underlay mat (4) consisting of a plastic flat material which has a high tensile strength, the dimensions of which approximately correspond with the dimensions of the mattress (1), pull loops (5) or the like, patient securing belts (6) and, optionally, mattress retaining bands (7) or the like, all attached to the underlay mat (4). This particular rescue underlay has an underlay mat 4 which has a flat material that itself is providing a spring travel. In a preferred embodiment the plastic flat material of the underlay mat 4 is a spacer woven fabric or, in particular, a spacer knitted fabric. A mattress can be separately combined with such rescue underlay or can even be integrated with a rescue underlay to form a rescue mattress.